

### **REMARKS**

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

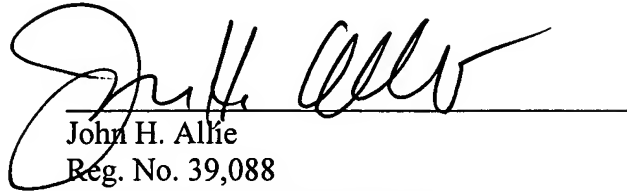
The Examiner has required the Applicant to elect under 35 U.S.C. §121 one of the following species for prosecution on the merits: the species of Figures 2a and 2b; the species of Figures 3a and 3b; and the species of Figures 4a and 4b. Applicant elects with traverse the species of Figures 3a and 3b for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Claims 1-3 and 6-18 are readable on the elected species. Further, at least claims 1 and 16-18 are believed to be generic. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the necessity of the species election, as the searching and examination of the three species is not thought to be unduly burdensome.

The Applicant's Representative believes that claims 16-18 should also be considered as independent claims. Upon review of the original filing papers it appears that a clerical error resulted in the paying for only three independent claims. More specifically, after further review of the application it appears that claims 1 and 16-18 should be classified as independent claims and therefore the Patent Office is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 23-3030 for a fourth independent claim.

The Applicant respectfully requests further examination and the issuance of a timely Notice of Allowability for the pending claims. If the Examiner believes that there

are any matters that can be resolved by a telephonic interview, the undersigned would welcome said call.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "John H. Allie", is written over a horizontal line.

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